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City of Tucson Ward 5 Newsletter

June 2018

Dear Friends:

During the June 6 Mayor and Council meeting, the Mayor and Council voted unanimously to approve the City Manager's proposed \$1.5 billion dollar budget for Fiscal Year 2019.

This culminated six months of work between the City Manager, his staff and the Mayor and Council.

This process began with budget workshops held in January. These discussed how the city was spending funds for services under the current budget, dealt with revenues coming in and projections for the next fiscal year.



The budget approved by the Mayor and Council is a structurally balanced budget.

In previous years, the City had to use "one time fixes," selling buildings or city owned land to balance a budget.

Now, the City of Tucson has structurally balanced budgets, where revenues cover city expenses.

Under this approved budget, city employees will receive a 2.5% pay increase.

When I came into office, city employees had to deal with nine day unpaid furloughs.

Police and Fire will each be getting more employees under this budget, which also provides monies to deal with salary compression issues.



The City of Tucson relies on sales taxes received to pay for services to constituents, including police, fire, parks and streets. When sales are down, the City of Tucson feels it immediately. When businesses open and the good citizens of Tucson are able to spend their hard earned money, Tucson feels that immediately as well.

The City Manager reported that sales tax revenues have increased as well as other revenues going up too. Tucson is closer to that light at the end of the economic tunnel, but we have work to do.

My staff and I will continue the efforts on expanding on the success of the Renaissance of Ward 5 and the South side.

Thank you.

Richard G. Fimbres
Ward 5 Councilmember

Proposition 409/Proposition 101 Update

The month of June marks a transition for road repair in the City of Tucson.

Proposition 409 that provided \$100 million in funding for road repair and work on arterial and neighborhood streets for the last five years comes to an end on June 30.

Arterial streets, such as Valencia, Irvington, Tucson Boulevard, 12th Avenue, Ajo Way, 22nd Street and neighborhood streets in Ward 5 were worked on and repaired under Proposition 409.

The work though doesn't end on June 30. On July 1, Proposi-

tion 101 goes into effect. Proposition 101 is the voter approved five year, half-cent sales tax for which \$100 million goes to road work and repair of streets in the City of Tucson. The other monies raised from this temporary sales tax would be spent on vehicles, equipment, and facilities for the Tucson Police Department and Tucson Fire Department.

Proposition 101 mandates that 60% of those funds would go to repair major arterials and 40% to neighborhood streets.

The Citizen's Bond Oversight Committee met on Monday, June 25 and has given approval for an equitable funding plan and that the roads will be repaired based upon a worst first in each respective Ward.

For Ward 5 roads to be repaired, your voices need to be heard. Send your comments to city-clerk@tucsonaz.gov, Subject Line: 2012 BOC and put in your suggestions for road work. My office has given suggestions as well and has met with transportation officials, but the more voices that speak out, the more roads will get repaired.



Also Jesse Lugo, my appointee to the Bond Oversight Committee is willing to speak to neighborhood associations and groups about Proposition 101. Please contact the Ward 5 Council Office (520) 791-4231 and we will get you in touch with Jesse. Also, he has created a form to report potholes and other road hazards, which is part of this newsletter.

Parks Bond Proposal

The four core services under the City of Tucson Charter are: police, fire, streets and parks.

Thanks to the good citizens who approved Proposition 409 and last year, with Proposition 101, funding is available for road work, police and fire vehicles, equipment and facilities.

The Mayor and Council and the City Manager have had discussions about the City's Park and Recreation facilities and coming up with funding for parks equipment, facilities, as well as for Tucson's Park and Recreation Neighborhood and Senior Centers.

City Manager Michael Ortega, working with his staff, has a proposal to issue General Obligation Bonds to get the funding for Parks.

The Manager's proposal would not raise the taxes of the good citizens of Tucson. It's based on the City's primary and secondary property tax assessments and keeping them level and with the City retiring old Bond debt, it will create a potential capacity of \$225 million.

Parks and Recreation Facilities in each Ward would get improvements and new equipment under this proposal. A citizen's oversight committee would oversee the spending for these projects.



A Nationally Accredited Agency

The Mayor and Council gave approval to a ballot measure on the November general election ballot and will finalize the ballot language at their July 10 meeting. I will give a further update in the Ward 5 July newsletter.

No Family Separations

At the June 19 Mayor and Council meeting, there was a resolution on the agenda for the Tucson Mayor and Council to go on record opposing the separation of families of those trying to enter into this country, for which the Trump Administration had previously announced a zero tolerance policy and had separated 2,300 children from their parents who were in custody for trying to cross the border. Here are my remarks that I gave at the Council meeting on this resolution.

Tucson has a long standing record of supporting human rights.

ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

June 19, 2018

RESOLUTION NO. 22908

A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENTS OF JUSTICE AND HOMELAND SECURITY TO SEPARATE CHILDREN FROM THEIR PARENTS AS PART OF A "ZERO TOLERANCE" ENFORCEMENT POLICY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, Attorney General Jeff Sessions, as head of the United States

Department of Justice, and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Kirstjen

Nielsen announced in early May a new "zero tolerance" policy in which they sharply

increased prosecution of undocumented border crossers, regardless of the nature of each

case; and

WHEREAS, part of this "zero tolerance" policy includes the forced separation of young immigrants and asylum seekers – children – from their parents and families; and

WHEREAS, while parents and caregivers are processed in the criminal court system and held in federal jails, their innocent children are classified as unaccompanied minors and housed in shelters awaiting placement with a U.S.-based adult who can assume their care; and if the Office of Refugee Resettlement cannot locate an adult for this purpose, the child remains housed in federal custody, separated from family, indefinitely; and

WHEREAS, as of April of 2018, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) reported that DHS and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) had separated more than 700 children from their parents since October 2017, including more than 100 children under the age of four (4); and

In 1977, Tucson was one of the first cities in the nation to pass an anti-discrimination ordinance, prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations.

In 2010, the Tucson Mayor and Council was the first governmental entity to file a legal challenge to SB 1070. This was done one week after Governor Jan Brewer had signed the bill.

In 2012, the Tucson Mayor and Council went on record as an Immigrant Welcoming City.

In 2014, the Tucson Mayor and Council went on record for comprehensive immigration reform.

Tucson's Mayor and Council went on record again, against the Trump administration policy of separating families.

Mexico alone has a \$1-billion positive impact

for Tucson and Southern Arizona's economy. Our other brothers and sisters from across the border add to this.

Even Governor Ducey's Arizona Town Hall recognized this and calls from the Legislature to repeal SB 1070.

Family separation is wrong. A recent article stated that the Trump Administration stated that more than 1,500 children have been lost and are unaccounted for. Is this what this nation was built upon?

Tucson's Mayor, Jonathan Rothschild, along with the Mayor's of Los Angeles, California, Albuquerque, New Mexico and Houston, Texas, sent a letter to the Trump Administration on their policy of family separation for those who cross into the U.S., which is taking 47 kids per day from their mothers and fathers.

The Mayors' letter asks for the halt of the practice of family separation and to work with Congress for comprehensive and rational immigration reform.

This nation has a tradition of immigrants, but yet now, there is a policy for which children are torn from their parents and being housed thousands of miles away.

The administration admitted they are running out of room to house these children and are looking to military bases to place them.

It is time to have a discussion about immigration reform and enact legislation and not initiate a policy through a Tweet.

The Mayor and Council took action, along with the Pima County Board of Supervisors. Thanks to the protest locally, across Arizona and the nation, the Trump Administration reversed course and signed an Executive Order to rescind the policy they had initiated.

The President did sign an Executive Order, but the work is not done. We must continue to stay on top of this issue for the 2,300 children that had been separated to ensure we get comprehensive immigration reform.



Tucson Voters to Consider Election Proposal

The Arizona Legislature passed HB 2604, in another attempt to tell cities how to conduct their elections. HB 2604 makes cities and towns in Arizona move their elections to even numbered years.

In the case of Tucson, this would require a vote of Tucson voters to approve a change to the Tucson City Charter. Governor Ducey signed HB 2604.

Nineteen times previously, the City of Tucson has filed legal challenges to previous attempts by the Arizona Legislature on the City's election process and have won in court, nineteen times. Tucson successfully argued that these laws violated the Arizona Constitution, which allows charter cities to rule on local issues and prohibits the state from overriding decisions.

This time though, my colleagues on the Council did not agree to a legal challenge and voted to place a ballot measure on the November 2018 general election ballot to change the City Charter to move Tucson's municipal elections to even numbered years.

Tucson is one of 19 cities in Arizona that is chartered and the voters approved its charter on how Tucson's government is to function and how it conducts elections.

The good citizens of Tucson ratified the Charter and made changes to the City's governing document over time. Tucson's voters dealt with the election process.

In 1960, Tucson voters approved changes to the Charter moving elections from even numbered to odd numbered years and to have the elections for Mayor and Council staggered, so that the Mayor, Ward 1, Ward 2 and Ward 4 in one election cycle and Ward 3, Ward 5 and Ward 6 in another election cycle.



The City of Tucson will be contracting with the Pima County Election's Department to have this election take place.

Pima County does not run all-vote by mail elections but runs a hybrid election, with early voting and voting at polling places.

More information will follow on this in future newsletters.

New Business in Ward 5!

One of the latest, new businesses in Ward 5 is Barbershop at Downtown. It is located at 1628 East Broadway. It owned by Leonor.

Their goal is to give their customers great service while offering an accessible schedule and with theirgreat personnel with more than 13 years of experience.



Feel free to come and try the best barbershop service in town.

They are open 9 am to 6 pm, Monday through Saturday.

For more information, Email: barbershopatdowntown4@gmail.com or call (520) 274-7916.

Welcome to Ward 5!

Ward 5 Has Great Restaurants!

In previous issues of this newsletter, we have featured various restaurants located in Ward 5 that offer a wide range of food and meals to consider. During the summer months, our wonderful restaurants tend to see a drop in customers, with the university students and tourists gone during these months.

If you get the opportunity to go out for breakfast, lunch or dinner, visit one of Ward 5's fine dining establishments for a great meal. You'll appreciate it as well as the restaurant, which have helped to make Tucson a City of Gastronomy.

Tucson Urban League Moves Program

The Tucson Urban League announced that they have changed their location for their Utility and Rental Assistance Program in Ward 5. It will take place at the Quincie Douglas Center. 1575 E. 36th Street, Tuesday's and Friday's, from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. For more information, call 791-9522.

QUINCIE DOUGLAS CENTER





We Love U Foundation Helps Tucson

Mayor Rothschild and I attended the We Love You Foundation Cleanup of Kennedy Lake on Sunday, June 10. This was one of 7,000 cleanups that were conducted in Tucson, the United States and 74 other countries.

I want to thank Savannah Lee of the Tucson Chapter of the We Love You Foundation for the invitation and for their membership who came out to clear garbage from Kennedy Lake.



Racial Reconciliation Conference Concludes 32nd Annual Event with Banquet

On Saturday, June 9, I had the honor of attending the banquet for the 32nd Annual Racial Reconciliation Conference at the Sheraton Tucson. This year's theme for the conference was "Changing Our World by Changing Ourselves."

I want to congratulate Martha Wills, William Wills and the Sunshine Ministries for their work organizing the conference. My office recognized individuals and faith-based organizations for their work bettering the lives of those in our community.



Santa Cruz Church

On June 26, I had the privilege of touring Santa Cruz Church which is located in my Ward.

I want to thank Father Stephan Watson for the tour and look forward to work with him and the church further.

Pictured are the five priests who had served at Santa Cruz Church and who were murdered during the Spanish Civil War of 1936. They were also martyred by the church.

Kids Can Beat the Heat For Free at a City Pool

The City of Tucson invites kids 17 and under to swim for free this summer. Free admission will be in place until the end of the summer season on August 1.

A fee is still required at the Edith Ball Adaptive Recreation Center pool. Fees there are \$2 for adults (18 and over) and \$1 for youth. I have worked with the City Manager to ensure that kids could swim this summer. For information call 791-4873.



Some of Tucson's Traffic Signals have a new look!

The City of Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT) has introduced flashing yellow arrows at some of its traffic signals throughout the City. With this change, many motorists have contacted TDOT with questions.

Below are some of the questions TDOT has received, followed by answers.

So what does the flashing yellow arrow indicate? Turn with caution. Bicyclists and motorists may turn in the direction of the flashing yellow arrow without stopping if there is a safe gap in oncoming traffic, while yielding to pedestrians and bicyclists.



Why did the City add the flashing yellow arrow?

Traffic signals with the new flashing yellow arrows are safer for pedestrians. When a pedestrian pushes the "Walk" button, the left turn arrow will turn red for motorists, while the "Walk" and pedestrian countdown display is on. Pedestrians can cross busy streets safely because left turning vehicles are prohibited from turning on a red arrow.

Will a traffic signal ever change directly from a flashing yellow arrow to a red arrow? No. There will always be a solid yellow arrow before a red arrow.

Am I allowed to stop when the yellow arrow is flashing? Yes. The flashing yellow arrow means proceed with caution. If it isn't safe to turn, stop and wait until it is safe to complete your turn.

I've seen a flashing yellow arrow change to a green arrow. Are they supposed to do that? Yes. The change from a flashing yellow arrow to a green arrow means that turning traffic has the right of way.

Can a green arrow change to a flashing yellow arrow? Yes. A green arrow changing to a flashing yellow arrow means that turning traffic no longer has the right of way and must yield to bicycles, pedestrians, and other vehicles before turning.

What does it mean when the traffic signal is red but the left turn arrow is flashing yellow? It means that oncoming traffic has the right of way on a green light. Vehicles intending to go straight through the intersection facing a red light must stop and not proceed unless allowed to make a right turn on red. Bicyclists and drivers turning left may carefully proceed through the intersection after yielding to any approaching traffic.

If you would like more information about flashing yellow arrows, call the Tucson Department of Transportation Traffic Engineering Division at (520) 791-4371.

ICS Mobile Food Pantry

The sun peaks over the Rincon mountains and people bustle about, excited as the truck unloads pallets of produce and bread. A line is forming and you can hear bits of English and Spanish sprinkled throughout the crowd. This is the El Pueblo Mobile Food Pantry, a partnership of Interfaith Community Services (ICS) and the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona with the goal of increasing food accessibility on the South side of town. Next to the bustling Roy Laos Transit Center, this ICS mobile



food pantry is seeing close to 185 families every fourth Friday of the month, and distributing over 10,000 lbs. of food to the community. The Community Food Bank is down the road, but they already served over 9,000 families per month at their headquarters and the need to expand access to food in this area is of utmost priority.

Over the past several years, ICS has taken note of the increasing number of families that are visiting the Northwest Food Bank from the South side of town. In an effort to reach out to those families with necessary food items, ICS is providing produce and bread at their new South side office in one of the most highly trafficked community centers in Tucson. With organizations like El Rio Community Health Center, Congressman Raul Grijalva's office, and Emerge Center Against Domestic Abuse (among many others), the addition of emergency food will be yet another support to the community and those in need. On Mobile Food Pantry days, ICS has also recently integrated on-the-spot utility assistance for those who qualify.

Those seeking utility assistance do not need an appointment but will need to bring appropriate documents with them. For more information about how to get food, utility assistance, or volunteer to help distribute food, please contact Lauryn Valladarez at (520) 526-9288

Ward 5 Neighborhood and Community Meetings in July

South Park Neighborhood Association - Monday, July 2 at 6:00 pm, Quincie Douglas Center, 1575 E. 36th St. Fairgrounds Neighborhood Association - Thursday, July 5 at 6:00 pm at Ward 5 Council Office, 4300 S. Park Avenue. Mortimore Neighborhood Association – Wednesday, July 11 at 7:00 pm at Jesus Reigns Christian Fellowship, 5337 S. Palo Verde. UCAB Quarterly Meeting – Wednesday, July 18 at 5:45 pm at El Pueblo Senior Center, 101 W. Irvington Rd. SNAPP (Southside Neighborhood Assn. Presidential Partnership) – Thursday, July 19 at 6:00 pm at Ward 5 Council Office, 4300 S. Park Avenue.

July 4 Safety Tips

Ensure your Independence Day weekend is filled with celebration and not regret with these 10 fire safety tips from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Be sure fireworks are legal in your area before using or buying them. Always have an adult supervise fireworks activities and never allow children to play with or ignite fireworks. Sparklers alone account for one quarter of emergency room fireworks injuries. If you set off fireworks, keep a bucket of water handy in case of malfunction or fire. If fireworks malfunction, don't relight them! Douse and soak them with water, then



throw them away. Never ignite fireworks in a container, especially one that is glass or metal. Use your grill well away from your home and deck railings, and out from under branches or overhangs. Open your gas grill before lighting. Periodically remove grease or fat buildup in trays below your gas or propane grill so it cannot be ignited. Declare a three-foot "kid and pet-free zone" around the grill to keep them safe. Avoid loose clothing that can catch fire when cooking on the grill.

Thank you Matt!

Wednesday, June 20, was Ward 5 Council Aide Matt Pate's last day. Matt has received an offer to work with Pima County with their new pilot program from Reentry Housing.

I want to thank Matt for his work and service to Ward 5 for these past two years on the issues at hand and want to wish the best in his new position.



City of Tucson

Report Potholes in Your Neighborhood Contact City of Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT)

Call: 791-3154

Email: <u>TDOTConcerns@tucsonaz,gov</u>

When you call to report a POTHOLE to be repaired in your neighborhood due to a concern of public safety, write person's name and date that you spoke with. Give the location (address or cross streets) where the issue is of concern. If POTHOLE is not repaired within a week then call the TDOT office once again.

If you choose to email the City of Tucson (TDOT) attach a photo or video of the POTHOLE location as this procedure is highly recommended. The best way is to use your cell phone, take the picture or video then forward to TDOTConcerns@tucsonaz.gov with the location (address or cross streets) in order for City of Tucson maintenance crew to find it.

IMPORTANT: Please also request that the neighborhood streets in your area be scheduled for resurfacing or maintenance for 2018 calendar year.

Document the following Information:

Person you spoke with:	
Date & Time:	
Person you spoke with:	
Date & Time:	
Person you spoke with:	
Date & Time:	
D	
Person you spoke with:	
Date & Time:	

Important Numbers and Contact Information

Ward 5 City Council Office 4300 S. Park Avenue Tucson Arizona 85714

> Phone: 520-791-4231 Fax: 520-791-3188 Ward5@tucsonaz.gov

Stay Informed! Visit our other information outlets:



http://tucsonaz.gov/wardfive

Help those who are in need.
Give to the Community Food
Bank.
For more information call: 520-622-0525



City of Tucson Ward 5 Newsletter

Frequently Used Phone Numbers

Emergency Services

Tucson Police Department or Tucson Fire Department DIAL 911

Permits

Planning and Development Services Department 791-5550

Housing Assistance

City of Tucson Community Services Department 791-4739

Tucson Convention Center 791-4101

City of Tucson Code Enforcement 791-5843

TPD Red Tag Unit 837-7318

Graffiti Removal 792-CITY (2489)

Trash Pick Up & Environmental Services

City of Tucson Environmental Services Department 791-3171

Transportation & Street Maintenance

Tucson Department of Transportation 791-3154

Tucson Water Department

Billing - 791-3242, Public Information - 791-4331

Park Tucson 791-5071

Pima Animal Care 724-5900

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